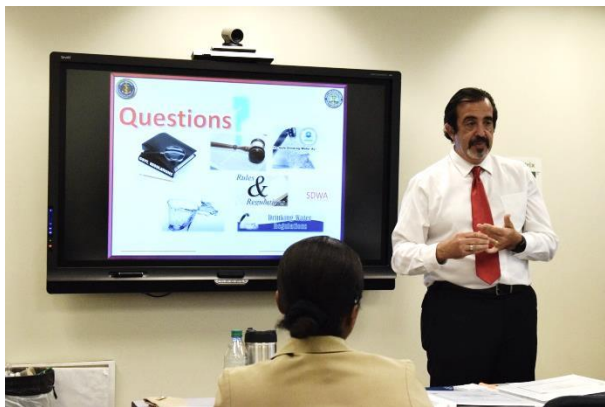




NMCPHC QUICK HITS

Safe Drinking Water



Mr. Anthony Carotenuto answers questions from attendees during the Preventive Medicine Water Authority Drinking Water Course, Sept. 27 – 29, 2016. (Photo by NMCPHC staff/released)

If you have seen the news on Flint, Michigan over the last year, you know that limited access to safe drinking water is not an issue reserved for developing countries. Water contamination exists home and abroad and the affects can be seen in the health and safety of everyone who relies on the water source. Because of this the Navy Marine Corps Public Health Center is committed to educating Navy preventive medicine personnel on policies, surveillance and testing techniques and risk communication tools to provide proper water quality management and safety to protect the readiness of U.S. service members and their families worldwide.

Importance of Detection

As with any illness, accurate and early detection are key factors in proper treatment. The same is true with safe drinking water. When identified correctly and quickly, contaminated water can be treated safely with minimal effect on personnel and the environment.

Policy for Testing

It is Department of the Navy (DON) policy that **all** Navy and Marine Corps public water systems be operated and maintained in compliance with federal and state laws, as well as specific DON policies.

Who Does Testing Effect?

Proper testing keeps everyone safe; including:

- Priority areas such as primary schools and day care centers
- Hospitals and clinics
- On base military housing for families
- Recreation centers and fitness facilities
- Restaurants and dining facilities

NMCPHC Hosts Pilot Drinking Water Course

In September, NMCPHC hosted a three-day pilot training course on safe drinking water management. As part of NMCPHC's commitment to the installations, personnel and families they serve this course focused on educating preventive medicine personnel on the risks associated with unsafe drinking water, how to communicate those risks, as well as surveillance tools and techniques. Instructors and attendees alike emphasized the importance of the drinking water course and the high level of expertise it provided. The information and training will continue to make an impact moving forward, being called a “game changer” for our environmental health community.” Read the full article on the Preventive Medicine Authority Drinking Water course [here](#)!

Additional Resources

- Contact the [Preventive Medicine Water Authority Subject Matter Experts](#) at NMCPHC if you have any questions. They can assist with investigation support, risk assessment, risk communication and obtaining definitive laboratory testing.
- Visit NMCPHC's [Environmental Health webpage](#) for additional safe drinking water policy, guidance and resources.

